

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Alan F. Meckstroth on 03/04/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

The claims:

Cancel claim 74.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the prior art taken alone or in combination teaches or suggests a fiber reinforced core panel with the structure set forth in the claims.

Of the references of record, the most pertinent are Tunnis, III et al (US 5,904,972), Ogle et al (US 6,191,414) and Mead et al (US 4,380,253).

Tunnis teaches a composite structure comprising a plurality of foam cores, each of which is wrapped with a fiber material and placed in a layer on a mold with a fiber material arranged to form a mold skins. The composite structure is sealed under a vacuum bag which includes one or more feeder conduits wherein. A resin is introduced under vacuum to the feeder channels and flows along the foam cores and penetrates in the surfaces of the cores and fiber material to form a composite structure. Tunnis does

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not teach a core panel having a recited structure in claims 18 and 22. One of skilled in the art would not be motivated to apply a layer of continuous fibrous rovings helically wound around an elongated strip that includes a row of longitudinal arranged and unconnected foam blocks prior to application of a vacuum and a resin with regard to claims 72, 73 and 79.

Note that, none of the cited references, alone or in combination, teach or suggest the fiber reinforced core panel of the claimed invention. Accordingly, the instant claims are deemed allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai Vo whose telephone number is (571) 272-1485. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rena Dye can be reached on (571) 272-3186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Hai Vo/
Hai Vo
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1794